

REMARKS

This application is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/784,333 filed on February 16, 2001, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/512,674 filed on March 8, 2000, filed in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 120. By this Amendment, claims 1-12 and 14 are canceled and claims 21-30 are added, leaving claims 13 and 15-29 pending with claims 13, 21 and 22 being independent.

Specification

The specification is amended to indicate that this application is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/784,333 filed on February 16, 2001, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/512,674 filed on March 8 and now abandoned. Additionally, the specification is amended to correct minor informalities. A marked up version of the amendments is attached herewith.

Support for Claims 13, and 15-20 and New Claims 21-29

Independent claim 13 recites a method of connecting two substantially identical cover fittings to a raceway including the steps of "placing the first cover fitting over a junction point of two raceway bases, the junction point being a miter joint" and "placing the second cover fitting over a curved base fitting coupled between two raceway bases."

Independent claim 21 recites a method of connected raceways including the steps of joining first and second raceways at a first junction area forming a miter joint and coupling a first cover fitting to the raceways at the first junction area so that a portion of cover fitting engages the first and second raceways. Claim 21 further recites joining the second raceway and a third raceway at a second junction area with the respective ends of the raceways being spaced from one another and a curved base being located therebetween, and coupling a

second cover fitting at the second junction area so that a portion of the cover fitting engages the second and third raceways, whereby the first and second cover fittings are substantially identical.

Independent claim 22 recites a method of connecting raceways including joining first and second raceways at a first junction area forming a miter joint, and coupling a first cover fitting with the first and second raceways at the first junction area, so that a portion of the cover fitting engages the first and second cover fitting. Claim 22 further recites joining third and fourth raceways at a second junction area with a curved base between the third and fourth raceways, and a coupling a second cover fitting with the third and fourth raceways at the second junction area so that the second cover sitting engages the third and fourth raceways.

The steps recited in the independent claims 13, 21, and 22 are fully supported in the specification. For example, on page 4, last paragraph, and on page 12, first paragraph, the specification describes two substantially identical cover fittings that connect two mitered raceways or connect two non-mitered raceways with a curved base therebetween. Figures 1 and 3 clearly show a cover fitting connecting two mitered raceways, and Figures 2 and 4 clearly show a cover fitting connecting two raceways with a curved base therebetween. Thus, it is clear by this language and Figures 1-4 that a first cover fitting can be placed on a miter joint of two raceway bases, and a second cover fitting can be placed on a non-miter joint of two raceway bases, with the first and second cover fittings being substantially identical.

Therefore, there is clear support in the specification for independent claim 13 and new independent claims 21 and 22. Additionally, there is clear support for dependent claims 15-20 and 23-29 in the specification and the drawings.

* * *

Prompt and favorable action is therefore respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDMENT IN S.N. 09/784,333In the Specification:

On page 1, line 9, delete "This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/521,674 filed on March 8, 2000, the subject matter of which is herewith incorporated by reference" and insert -- This application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/784,333 filed on February 16, 2001, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/512,674 filed on March 8, 2000, now abandoned, the subject matter of each of which is herewith incorporated by reference.--

On page 5, line 3, after "fasteners 17" insert -- (see FIG. 3) --.

On page 6:

line 7, change "first end 57" to -- second end 58 --; and

line 9, change "second end 58" to -- first end 57 --.

On page 8, line 32, after "a top 140" insert -- (see FIG. 11) --.